Detroit Food Policy Council Meeting  
Tuesday, October 8, 2019  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
EMC Corporation Conference Room  
Minutes

1) 5:30 – 5:40 PM Food & Networking

2) Welcome and Roll Call  
   Velonda Anderson, Diane, Clara, Alex, Shiloh, Kathryn, Lindsey, Jason, Nick, Joel, Kristi, Cali,  
   Kevin, Dazmonique

3) Remarks from the Chair

4) Review and Acceptance of the August Meeting Minutes  
   Accepted with corrections

5) Sustainability Action Agenda Update  
   Joel, director of Office of Sustainability gave overview of the engagement process used in  
   development of the sustainability action agenda. Weighted priorities to be more representative  
   of demographics of the city. Food access, water affordability, housing affordability and utility  
   affordability were top issues for Detroit residents. Identified four outcomes for agenda to help  
   achieve, and 10 goals within the outcomes. Healthy thriving people, clean connected  
   neighborhoods, affordable quality home, equitable green city. One goal identified is better  
   access to healthy affordable food. Joel reviewed the goals that relate to food system issues such  
   as access to healthy affordable food, disposition of vacant lots, and availability of irrigation only  
   water accounts. The plan for implementation includes many city departments in addition to the  
   Office of Sustainability.  
   Q&A: city is trying to determine how to recognize the work city residents have done to maintain  
   vacant lots, but they haven’t determined how that will be incorporated into the city’s program.  
   You can play game on city website to get a free recycling bin. The plan for revamping meet up  
   and eat up include reducing the number of sites (for city run sites) and focus on getting quality  
   vendors at remaining sites to hopefully be able to expand again once there is better  
   understanding of how to run sites better. MSUE has funding to do nutrition education at sites,  
   Joel can connect them to recreation department.

6) Notes from the field – Nick Leonard  
   Nick is Env. Justice representative. Federal level: HUD announced $9.7 mil grant to Detroit for  
   lead abatement in homes, managed by health department. State level: governor reorganized  
   DEQ and started environmental justice positions near beginning of year Department of  
   Environment Great Lakes and Energy (DEGLE or EGLE), directed by Regina Strong that used to  
   work with Sierra Club; revised lead and copper rules for drinking water became effective last  
   summer resulting in more places having elevated lead levels; PFOS rule limits amount of PFOS  
   allowed in drinking water; Detroit: Work For Me DTE campaign seeking to put pressure on DTE  
   to incorporate renewable energy and community owned energy into plans for future and  
   oppose rate increase, focused on integrated resource plan that DTE required to develop and  
   rate increase; Fiat Chrysler plant has to agree to environmentally beneficial project that will be
approved by state, some local community organizations have been working with plant
developers to make sure they are developing a project that benefits residents; breath free
Detroit campaign was part of shutting down Detroit incinerator, and now working on how to
transition city’s waste programs. Community solar bill is proposed in state leg.

7) Strategic Planning
Started working on a strategic plan with support from Jane Morgan. Lindsey and Winona have
worked on finalizing the plan. *Will send finalized version out to council members for comment.

8) Nominations
Call for nominations went out after last meeting. We got seven nominations. The nominating
committee reviewed and vetted
Akua Woolbright – retail food
Daryl Pierson – farmers markets
Sarah Mills – emergency food
The executive committee will work to fill the remaining open seats: faith based and maternal
health
Jason said a few words endorsing Akua for the retail seat. Lindsey gave council members
background information for Sara Mills. Can we send a copy of the nominations to council
members before they vote for them? We need to have a better process around giving council
members information for the nominees that are proposed moving forward. Jason volunteered
to assist the nominating committee.
Motion to approve entire slate, motion accepted. Slate approved.

9) 10 Year Celebration – Velonda / Winona
We need to recruit volunteers to help plan celebration for 10 year anniversary. We would like to
have the celebration before the end of the year. contact Winona if you would like to be on
planning committee.

10) Committee Reports
a. Research and Policy Committee
Administration removed allowance that allows families to include utility expenses
when calculating eligibility for SNAP. Amy will send information for public comment
period
State approved 10 Cents expansion, and governor line item vetoed the program. DFPC
meeting with partners at Groundworks to determine next steps.
Michigan Local Food Counsel network day in Lansing October 15.
Committee needs a new chair, and Amy will be reformulation how the committee runs.
There will be no meeting in October, and November meeting will be focused around
determining how the committee will operate.

b. Education and Engagement Committee
Food Power Awards and MFNW
We presented the Food Power Awards at MFNW on Sept. 8. About 3500 people
attended the event, and an estimated 300 people were present during the Food Power
Awards. We presented 6 awards to Charles Walker – Individual, Hope Village Farmers
Market – Organization, Cooking with Que – Business, Amir Ware – Youth, Breathe Free
Detroit Campaign – Sustainability, and Chef Bee of Sisters on a Roll – Community Choice.
MFNW coordinator prepared an event summary, and I can share it with council
members if desired
Food System Tour
Clara worked with us to organize a food system tour for an immersive learning tour from Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH. 9 students and 2 faculty participated in a 2.5 day, interactive tour based on our Tomato Food Chain Adventure activity.

Detroit Food 2020 Planning
First planning meeting held Sept 18. We had to reschedule this month’s meeting and I will send the meeting information once we have the date set. We are working on reaching out to potential keynote speakers, releasing a call for track coordinators, and a call for workshop proposals. We need more people to participate in the planning committee, we especially have a need for someone to help with soliciting sponsors and fundraising, and someone to help manage volunteers at the summit. If you have those particular skills and would like to participate please let me know.

11) Financial Report – Treasurer (4 minutes)
Velonda reviewed the financial statement so everyone could hear the report. Grant from United Way will provide operating funds.
Motion to accept financial reports, motion accepted. Financial report accepted

12) Director’s Report
Winona is absent, director’s report is attached

13) Final Report from U of M PHAST Team
Malcolm Cunningham presented on behalf of students. Winona spoke at an engaged learning workshop for the Public Health Action Support Team last year, and they spent a year developing council district profiles and mapping food system data. Looked at developing communications strategies for each council district, but they didn’t get enough data from stakeholders to develop that component. Ratio of full service to dollar stores in 2018 is much higher than in 2010. Looking at local dollars and local food systems, used local food system analysis, and analysis of limited supermarket access areas, and low access areas. Developed council member profile for council members they were able to talk to, and developed list of stakeholders for each district.  Used census block groups for mapping data so they could look at very detailed information. There is an interactive version so users can see all data for each census block group. The group has shared the resource folder with DFPC with district profiles, spreadsheets with census block group information, stakeholder data, and maps.

14) Reports from Governmental Representatives
  a. Health Department – Alex Hill
     New health director is Denise Bayer, she has 10 years experience in health care sector. Community health assessment – access to healthy food and access to grocery stores were high priorities among residents. Will be developing a community health plan next.
  b. Legislative Branch Report – Kathryn Underwood
     Working with PDD on Land Based Projects to have a clear process to purchase land from city for agriculture. Since Erin Kelly left PDD work has moved to Office of Sustainability. Another new director of animal control, and livestock ordinance will have to be reviewed by new director to move forward. Green Task Force recycled organics subcommittee has ramped up.
  c. Mayor’s Office – Joel Howrani Heeres
     See Sustainability agenda presentation above
15) Next Meeting – December 10, 2019

16) Public Comments
Alyssa Beavers – is community health assessment available to the public? Go to Detroitmi.gov/health, and data sets will be on open data portal soon.
Students from Data Visualization class are here and looking for people to interview. Kibibi can send the link to the survey with meeting minutes

17) Announcements
Jason talked with Chicago Food Policy Council, they don’t rotate board members so they have long organizational memory, but have no strategic plan. External priorities permeate through organization, but they have funding and piloted Urban Stewards Action Network and each sector has representative from each area of the city.
They have a summit in February and have invited DFPC members to attend. Oct. 16-17 Chicago Good Food proclamation day.

18) Adjournment 7:35pm